

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Ukraine
Program Title:	Strengthening Citizen Participation
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	121-0213
Status:	New
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$13,919,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$13,803,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2003
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2007

Summary: USAID's program to strengthen citizen participation in Ukraine will contribute to results in four areas: strengthening the role of civil society organizations (CSOs) in promoting democracy; improving the effectiveness and democratic orientation of political parties; improving the openness and competitiveness of the electoral process; and increasing the availability of unbiased public information.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Enhance the role of civil society organizations (\$5,519,000 FSA). Under a new program, USAID will seek to: 1) strengthen CSO advocacy to better protect and defend citizens' interests and promote more transparent, accountable and responsive governance; 2) enhance the legal and regulatory framework so that it better protects civil liberties and fosters financial sustainability of CSOs; 3) improve the financial viability of CSOs; and 4) strengthen CSOs' professionalism and ethical standards. USAID plans to provide training to 150 people from 50 CSOs and support up to 50 sub-grants for a total of \$500,000 for FY 2003. The Eurasia Foundation will continue to support CSOs in private enterprise growth, local governance, and citizen participation. About 75 grants, totaling \$637,000, will be made to approximately 35 organizations. USAID will provide five grants to think tanks to support policy dialogue on vital issues, such as privatization, freedom of information, Euro-Integration, media freedoms, small business development, and tax reform. Five regional exchanges will be organized to link policy advocates with counterparts in neighboring countries. Assistance will be provided to 10 anti-corruption coalitions working at the community level. Implementers include Institute for Sustainable Communities, Eurasia Foundation, Freedom House, and Development Alternatives, Inc. (prime).

Strengthen political parties (\$3,000,000 FSA). Activities are focused on making parties more responsive and accountable to citizens, improving governance capacity of locally-elected officials, and increasing the participation of Ukrainians, particularly youth and women. The International Republican Institute's (IRI) program will train at least 450 local elected officials in such topics as budgeting, coalition building, and public hearing. Approximately 375 youths and another 375 women will receive leadership training. The National Democratic Institute's (NDI) program will sponsor weekly talks and consultations with parties' national leadership in Kyiv and monthly consultations and training seminars in major regions. Through training and consultations for party activists, NDI will help political partners maintain their internal unity and assist them in developing local and regional level structures. Grantees are IRI and NDI.

Improve the openness and competitiveness of the electoral process (\$1,000,000 FSA). USAID will foster reform of the legal and regulatory framework through grants to reform-minded CSOs. Monthly roundtables will engage civic activists and government officials on electoral reform issues. Relevant publications will be printed and distributed including, a compendium of European election laws and a reference book of judicial rulings in Ukraine on electoral issues. Support will help a leading elections monitoring CSO observe preparations for several by-elections as well as Election Day itself. Plans will be developed for improving training of election commissioners. The prime contractor is Development Associates, Inc.

Increase the availability of unbiased public information (\$4,400,000 FSA). Activities will: support advocacy initiatives to improve and uphold the legal and regulatory framework for media; strengthen legal defense for freedom of speech; improve the financial viability of the non-state, independent media outlets through business, marketing, and financial management training; and increase the availability of quality news through non-state, independent media outlets. USAID training and technical assistance will focus on 30 media outlets. Grant support to CSOs will promote advocacy for press freedom and services to media outlets. Legal aid for media representatives will also be provided. USAID will support the production of news and information products to ensure that quality information continues to be produced even within Ukraine's constrained enabling environment. Specifically, to increase citizen understanding of key issues, USAID will fund the production of over 150 hours of TV news, 130 hours of radio news, 14 different brochures of 5,000 copies each, and 2 monthly publications with a total circulation of 14,000. A hotline will service up to 140,000 calls a year on such issues as SME, taxes, land privatization, credit unions, and deregulation. Over 700 journalists should be reached through various roundtables and seminars to improve the substance of their journalism. The major grantee is the Centre for Ukrainian Reform Education (CURE, a Ukrainian NGO). A new recipient for media activities will be determined by competition.

FY 2004 Program:

Enhance the role of civil society organizations (\$6,200,000 FSA). Technical assistance will continue to focus on supporting coalitions among CSOs, strengthening membership and constituencies, financial diversification, information-sharing, and more sophisticated advocacy. It is also planned that the total funding directed to sub-grants will enable CSOs, including associations, think tanks, and advocacy groups, to launch citizen defense/government accountability action plans and support legal advocacy and legal defense for freedom of association.

Strengthen the effectiveness and democratic-orientation of political parties (\$2,500,000 FSA). USAID will continue implementing activities that were started in FY 2003 in this functional area. Similar training will be provided by IRI and NDI in order to deepen the outreach of USAID training and thus increase the likelihood of organizational change within those parties who are receptive to USAID assistance.

Improve the openness and competitiveness of the electoral process (\$1,000,000 FSA). Activities that began in FY 2003 in these areas would continue. In addition, USAID would likely fund training for judges and lawyers on the new presidential election law to increase the capability of Ukrainians to address violations in the electoral process. Long-term monitoring of the electoral process leading up to the 2004 presidential elections will be supported and USAID will seek to provide grants and technical assistance to media outlets and CSOs seeking to supply voters with objective and thorough information about the electoral process and candidates.

Increase the availability of unbiased public information (\$4,103,000 FSA). Plans for FY 2004 are to deepen USAID assistance in the aforementioned areas (legal aid and advocacy; business development; dissemination of news and information) working with a greater number of outlets, journalists, and citizens.

Performance and Results: The March 2002 parliamentary elections were viewed as an improvement over past electoral experiences. Over 2,000 party leaders and staff and 25,000 poll station workers were trained through USAID assistance, ensuring a more competitive and transparent process than in the past. During FY 2002, over 60 media events reached 900 media professionals. Ninety active programs were awarded over a dozen election-related grants to CSOs to mobilize voters and increase participation in the election process. By the end of FY 2003, a majority of citizens will demonstrate a better understanding of the issues involved in pension, tax, and agricultural reform, as a result of USAID support to NGOs, independent media, and competitive electoral processes. By the end of the program, a greater percentage of Ukrainians will be participating through voter turnout and membership in civil society organizations.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Ukraine

121-0213 Strengthening Citizen Participation	FSA
Through September 30, 2001	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Fiscal Year 2002	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Through September 30, 2002	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA	
Obligations	13,919
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003	
Obligations	13,919
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA	
Obligations	13,803
Future Obligations	0
Est. Total Cost	27,722